

Correspondents' Column.

Mrs. M. A. Q., LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.—The pension granted to an disabled soldier during his life-time cannot be increased after his death. If you have drawn \$8 a month pension from the date of your husband's death, and have no children by the soldier who are under sixteen (16) years of age, you receive the full amount allowed by law.

P. W. C., HALLOCK, ILLINOIS.—Q. When was the pay of soldiers of late war increased?—A. May 1, 1864. Private's pay in artillery and infantry was increased from \$13 to \$16 a month; corporal's from \$15 to \$18, and sergeant's from \$17 to \$20. We are unable to say what was the actuating motive of the legislative branch of the Government in providing this increase in pay, but we presume it was owing to the depreciation of the currency. The sergeant to whom you refer cannot have received monthly pay in excess of above rate.

JAS. A., FERRE HAUTE, INDIANA.—Q. My pension was granted at \$3 per month from June 24, 1865, (date of discharge) to May, 1870, and at \$5 a month from last date. Am I entitled to any arrears of pension?—A. No; because you have been allowed from date of discharge. The Act of Pension law provides only for those whose pension did not commence from the date of the discharge or death of the soldier.

S. M., HILLSBORO, OHIO.—No law has been enacted providing an artificial limb or commutation money therefore to soldiers and sailors every three (3) years instead of every five (5) years. The law remains unchanged. Perhaps you have in mind the act of March 3, 1879, which provides a bonus every two (2) years and six months to soldiers, seamen, &c., who were captured in the United States service.

I. S., QUINCY, ILLINOIS.—Q. I was drafted for one year; am I entitled to any United States bounty?—A. No; none has been provided for men drafted for one year or for their substitutes.

JAS. MCML., KNOX, MAINE.—A soldier who, after serving nine months, received an honorable discharge and then re-enlisted for three years in another organization (enlistments into the Veteran Reserve Corps excepted) as a volunteer, between January 1, 1863, and April 1, 1864, is, if not mustered as a veteran volunteer, entitled to an "office-muster" as such. Such muster will entitle the soldier to the difference between veteran and recruit bounty, \$102 or \$202, according to date of enlistment.

Geo. J. S., MONTGOMERY, ALA.—Pension to minor children ceases by law when they severally attain the age of sixteen years. They are allowed until they are twenty-one to apply through a guardian and draw pension up to the time they reached the age of sixteen. Failing to apply before they are twenty-one, they forfeit all title.

E. M. S., ROCKPORT, INDIANA.—Q. A soldier drew a pension commencing in 1870 and died, leaving a widow and children. Should the widow alone apply for the arrears of pension, or should guardian of children join with her in the application?—A. Widow alone should apply. The children have no claim. Q. Suppose a widow establishes a claim to a pension for herself and one child, and does not include in her application two children of the soldier by a former wife; can the step-children of the widow recover the \$2 a month?—A. They can, provided they were under sixteen (16) years of age at date of soldier's death, and the youngest has not already attained the age of twenty-one (21) years. If the youngest is twenty-one, the title of both is forfeited.

C. O., HAWLEY, MINNESOTA.—Q. I enlisted January, 1864, and was discharged in March, 1866. Am I entitled to the additional bounty provided by act of July 3, 1867?—A. No; you enlisted for \$50 bounty, and the act cited provides additional or extra bounty to those only who have received or are entitled to receive \$100 and no more. In regard to homestead, you should apply to the Commissioner of the General Land Office in this city.

A. J. K., ATT'Y AT LAW, CINCINNATI, OHIO.—Children of soldiers of the war of 1812 or the Mexican war, or of the various Indian wars prior to March 3, 1855, are not entitled to land warrant on account of their fathers' service in above named wars, unless they were under twenty-one years of age March 3, 1855. They may, however, no matter what their age, complete a claim pending at date of death of father or mother and receive the warrant.

H. M. S., ATTORNEY, &c., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.—There can be but 100 acres of land granted for the service of a soldier (even if he served in two wars, either of which services would give title), and if he or any heir has received a warrant for that amount, there is no further valid claim to land.

ALBERT G. D., MCKEAN, ILLINOIS.—1st. We cannot advise you to apply for an increase of pension, unless your disability has increased in such a manner and to such extent, since your last examination, as to make its progression clearly patent to the examining surgeon. You are rated for about one-half of total disability. 2d. An applicant for pension must report to the surgeon or board of surgeons before whom ordered by the Pension office, if he be physically able to do so, unless he can show some satisfactory reason why he should not, such as having a personal enemy on the board or having previously had an unfair or careless examination. 3d. A pensioner is allowed to apply at any time for an increase, but, unless the disability is of a progressive nature, the Pension office frequently declines to order a re-examination until after the lapse of a reasonable time from last examination.

HENRY A. F., YANKTON, DAK.—The mother's claim for pension has priority to the father's; the father has no title to pension while the mother lives.

"GUARDIAN," ERIE, PA.—Only the children of a soldier who were under sixteen years of age at the date of his death, are entitled to a pension.

WM. S., SIOUX CITY, IOWA.—The Equalization Bounty Bill has not become a law. No law granting additional bounty has been enacted since July 28, 1866.

A. R. S., ATT'Y AT LAW, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.—Under a special provision of the law, teamsters are entitled to land warrant for service in the war of 1812, the war with Mexico, and the various Indian wars prior to March 3, 1855; also, volunteers who served with the armed forces but were not mustered into the service are entitled; also, those who volunteered to serve during the invasion of Plattsburg, but were not regularly mustered into the service; but the classes of persons above referred to are not entitled to pension.

H. H. H., GILBERTSVILLE, NEW YORK.—The widow of a deceased soldier can now receive a pension from the date of her husband's death up to the date of her remarriage, without regard to date of filing her application, provided, of course, that the soldier died in service or of a disability contracted in service and she has not already received same; and also provided that the guardian of her children has not drawn pension to cover said period.

Geo. W. T., WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA.—A law was in force until January 1, 1866, to pay for horses and equipments lost in service. Claims which were not filed in the proper Department prior to that date are now barred. An effort was made during last Congress to have a law continuing the time for paying such claims enacted, but the bill did not become a law. The same bill has been introduced in the present (49th) Congress and will no doubt receive favorable consideration and become a law. You should place your claim in the hands of a competent claim attorney without delay.

HARVEY W. E., OTTAWA, KAN.—The widow of whom you writes entitled to a pension, provided she proves that her husband's death was due to his military service and that the fatal disease was contracted while he was in the line of his duty as a soldier.

BENJ. R., LAUREL, ILLINOIS.—Those who enlisted subsequent to July 18, 1864, are not entitled to the second installment of bounty unless they served one-half of the term for which enlisted, unless discharged by reason of a wound or injury as contradistinguished from a disease.

S. C. VAN H., NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.—Q. I was in hospital suffering from second amputation, and was discharged the service in December, 1864, although my physical condition prevented me from leaving the hospital until October, 1865, from which date my pension commenced. Am I entitled to pension from December, 1864, to October, 1865?—A. Our opinion is that an error has been made in filing out your pension certificate, which should have shown you entitled from December, 1864. You are advised to send your pension certificate to the Pension office, with request for a release to correct error in date.

B. W., CAPE MAY C. H., NEW JERSEY.—Q. My mother (now deceased) drew a pension on account of the death of my brother, but it did not commence until nearly six years after his death. Am I entitled to my mother's back pension, from the date of my brother's death up to the time my mother died?—A. No. You were not under sixteen (16) years of age at the date of your mother's death and, therefore, have no title to pension under any law, by reason of service and death of your brother.

R. J. R., ST. CLAIR, PENNSYLVANIA.—Q. I enlisted in November, 1861; received \$100 bounty; re-enlisted in the field as a veteran in January, 1862, and received \$300 bounty for veteran service. Shall I receive any benefit from the passage of the Equalization Bounty Bill?—A. Not unless you served over five (5) years. The Equalization Bounty Bill proposes a bounty of eight and one-third dollars a month (\$100 a year) for each month

of service, deducting all United States bounty already received. We hope the present Congress will pass the Equalization Bill.

W. K. R., HAYSVILLE, OHIO.—1st. Those who enlisted subsequent to July 18, 1864, became entitled only to the installments of bounty which had accrued at time of discharge, unless discharged on account of wound or injury (not disease), in which event they became entitled to full bounty. It appears that you enlisted for one year and received \$67½ bounty and, not serving your full term, the third installment was not your due. 2d. One commissioned officer or two enlisted men are required in a pension claim to corroborate claimant's statement as to the time when, place where, and circumstances under which the alleged disability was contracted. 3d. The fee allowed by law to an attorney for prosecuting a pension claim is \$10 in cases filed subsequent to June 20, 1878.

F. W., BRIDGTON, MAINE.—1st. Your case is not clearly stated, but we presume you received only \$50 of the "additional" bounty provided by the act of July 28, 1866, because discharged by reason of a disability, not a wound or injury in the nature of a wound, before serving three full years; or, if your enlistment was for two (2) years, \$50 is the amount of additional bounty provided by law for that term of enlistment. 2d. If a survivor of the war of 1812 has died, leaving a widow who was his second wife, she is entitled to a pension, provided she has not remarried and her husband served full fourteen (14) days or was in any engagement with the enemy and honorably discharged. Children of soldiers of the war of 1812 have no title to pension.

W. H. H., WILKESBARRE, PENNSYLVANIA.—California does not elect members of Congress until next September. Mr. Lattrell introduced a number of bills and, as you entitled to state the purpose of the particular one to which you refer, we are unable to give you the desired information.

"SUBSCRIBER," PATTERBURG, NEW JERSEY.—Q. How does the Act of Pension law apply to the following case? Pensioner was wounded July 1, 1863, and discharged in November, 1865. Has drawn a pension of \$10 a month from December, 1874. Is he entitled to arrears from date of disability or from date of discharge; and what would be his rating for the intervening time?—A. His pension cannot go back of date of discharge, and his rating for the intervening time will be fixed according to the degree of his disability for manual labor from time to time during said period, as disclosed by the medical and non-professional testimony on file with the application. The foregoing is in accordance with the construction of the law by the Commissioner of Pensions.

N. B.—The answer to "H. B. O." in the "Correspondents' Column" of the March number should have read: "A man who enlisted between July 22, 1861, and October 24, 1863, in a new or old organization, or between July 22, 1861, and December 24, 1863, in a new organization, or between April 1, 1864, and July 18, 1864, in old or new organization, if discharged on account of a disease, as contradistinguished from a wound or injury in the nature of a wound, before two years' full service, is not entitled to any bounty from the United States." The error in the March number crept in through an omission of the printer after the "proof" was read, and is greatly regretted, as our desire is to have everything which appears in this column, as well as in the entire paper, *ex cathedra*.

Many correspondents, whose initials do not appear in this column, will find the information they seek in replies to other correspondents.

Many inquiries in cases arising under the new Arrears of Pension law, cannot be answered in this issue, as decisions upon the points involved have not yet been rendered. Official decisions under said law will be published from time to time.

Correspondents who desire their inquiries answered in this column should so state.

List of Special Acts passed by the 45th Congress, 2nd Session.

Adams, Samuel V., late private Company B, First New Jersey Cavalry, from March 3, 1879.

Allen, Mary A., widow of Geo. B. Allen, late private in Fourth Michigan Volunteer Cavalry, from March 1, 1879.

Anderson, Eliza B., widow of Robert Anderson, late brigadier general, U. S. A., \$50 per month, from February 7, 1879.

Angle, Amos, late private Company G, Seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Bagley, William H., late private Company I, Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, from March 3, 1879.

Batchelder, Edmund R., late private Company B, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, restored to the roll March 3, 1879.

Belrichards, Mrs. W. E., widow of James R. Belrichards, late second lieutenant Company I, Fifty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, from March 3, 1879.

Benham, Elizabeth McN., daughter of the late General John McNeil, U. S. A., \$20 per month from March 3, 1879.

Bradford, Sarah H., mother of William H. Bradford, late acting master's mate, U. S. N., from March 1, 1879.

Brennan, Catharine, widow of John Brennan, late private Company B, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, from March 1, 1879.

Brown, Henry, late private Company C, One hundred and twenty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, from March 1, 1879.

Browne, William R., late volunteer lieutenant commanding United States ship "Restless," from February 7, 1879.

Browning, Geo. W., late orderly sergeant Company D, First Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, from March 1, 1879.

Buchanan, James, late private Company I, Thirty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from March 1, 1879.

Buck, William H. H., late of First Vermont Cavalry Volunteers, from March 3, 1879.

Burnett, Ward B., increased to \$50 per month from March 3, 1879.

Burroughs, Thomas, late private Company G, First Vermont Volunteer Cavalry, from March 3, 1879.

Clippinger, Anna M., mother of John R. Clippinger, late private Company D, One hundred and twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Cook, James H., from March 1, 1879.

Corl, Michael S., late private Company K, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, restored to the rolls March 3, 1879.

Crabbe, Helen, daughter of late Rear-Admiral Thomas Crabbe, U. S. N., \$30 per month from March 1, 1879.

Cross, Mary B., widow of Colonel Osborn Cross, U. S. A., from March 3, 1879.

Daggett, James C., late private Company E, U. S. Signal Service, \$72 per month from March 3, 1879.

Denene, William, late private Company F, Eleventh Maine Volunteer Infantry, from February 7, 1879.

Devlin, Ellen, widow of Patrick Devlin, late of Company C, Sixth U. S. Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Dillahunt, Lucinda C., widow of Lewis Dillahunt, captain in war of 1812, from March 1, 1879.

Doty, De Forest, late private Company B, Ninth Vermont Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Dulaney, Mrs. Jane, widow of William Dulaney, late colonel in U. S. Marine Corps, at \$36 per month from July 4, 1868.

Dwight Morris, dependent father of late Colonel A. W. Dwight, of the One hundred and twenty-second New York Volunteers, from March 3, 1879.

Ege, A. G., late private in Sixth U. S. Cavalry, from March 3, 1879.

Etzell, John, late private Company B, Second Minnesota Infantry Volunteers, at \$6 per month from March 3, 1879.

Frailey, Eliza H., widow of James M. Frailey, late commodore U. S. N., increased to \$50 per month from February 7, 1879.

Frazee, Mary, dependent mother of Thomas B. Frazee, late private Company A, Ninetieth Ohio Volunteers, from February 7, 1879.

Gale, Mrs. Rosa, widow of Captain Benjamin B. Gale, at \$30 per month from March 3, 1879.

Gallagher, Catharine H., widow of John Gallagher, late captain U. S. A., increased to \$50 per month from March 3, 1879.

Garrett, William H., late private Company B, Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry Volunteers, from March 3, 1879.

Gates, Louise H., increased to \$50 per month from February 7, 1879.

Gavin, John, late of Sixteenth New York Cavalry, from March 3, 1879.

Gemmell, Catharine, and her three minor children, from March 1, 1879.

Gooding, Andrew A., from March 3, 1879.

Grossman, Henry, late private Company F, One hundred and fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry Volunteers, from March 1, 1879.

Grubbins, John, late private Company A, Third New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, at \$8 per month from March 3, 1879.

Haley, John, late of Company G, Fifteenth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Hallam, Hannah, widow of Michael Hallam, late private Company F, Fourteenth West Virginia Volunteers, at \$8 per month from March 1, 1879.

Harris, Mary G., widow of John Harris, late commandant of the U. S. Marine Corps, at \$50 per month from March 3, 1879.

Harrison, Mrs. Sidney A., widow of Thomas Harrison, who served in the war of 1812, at \$20 per month from March 3, 1879.

Hawley, Caroline, widow of William Hawley, late first lieutenant U. S. A., increased from \$17 to \$30 per month, from March 3, 1879.

Higgins, Andrew F., late private Fourth Independent Company of Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, from February 7, 1879.

Hollingsworth, Benjamin, late private Company I, First Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, restored to the rolls March 3, 1879.

Hoe, Emilie R., widow of late Brevet Major Alexander S. Hoe, Fifth U. S. Infantry, at \$27 per month from December 8, 1847, to January 1, 1854.

Howard, Hiram, late private Company I, Second Kansas State Militia, from March 3, 1879.

Humes, Susan, dependent foster mother of George C. Humes, late first lieutenant Company B, One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, restored to the rolls March 3, 1879.

Jackson, Jarvis, at \$16 per month from March 3, 1879, in lieu of \$8 per month.

Kellogg, Josiah, late private Company G, Forty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Kuhlman, Johanna, widow of Anton Kuhlman, late second lieutenant Company B, First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Lauman, Ann C., at \$30 per month from March 3, 1879.

Leibig, William, late private Company D, Eighth Kansas Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Le Roy, Cornelius, late corporal Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, at \$8 per month from March 3, 1879.

McIntyre, John, restored to the rolls, restoration to date from March 4, 1877.

McKeever, Mary F., widow of late Commodore Isaac McKeever, U. S. N., increased to \$50 per month, from March 3, 1879.

McNulta, John, late colonel of Ninety-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, increased to \$50 per month from March 3, 1879.

Macdonald, Belinda, widow of Christopher R. Macdonald, late colonel in Forty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, from February 7, 1879.

Mahew, James, late private in Twenty-third Battery of Indiana Volunteers, from March 1, 1879.

Makin, Hugh B., late private Company A, Eighth U. S. Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Maxwell, Maria L., widow of William C. Maxwell, late of Company D, Twelfth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from March 3, 1879.

Middleton, Richard, late captain Company M, Fiftieth New York Engineers, from March 3, 1879.

Middough, Daniel, dependent father of Orlando F. Middough, late private Company C, Ninth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, from March 3, 1879.

Miller, Abram V., late first lieutenant Company E, One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, from December 10, 1878.

Morris, Lydia A., widow of John K. Morris, late private Company A, Fifth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, from February 7, 1879.

Morrison, Andrew J., at \$20 per month from February 7, 1879.

Mumroe, Alice B., widow of Captain Frank Mumroe, late of Marine Corps U. S. A., from March 3, 1879.

Murphy, Thomas, late corporal Company E, Twenty-first Missouri Volunteers, from March 3, 1879.

Parker, Mary E., widow of Solomon M. Parker, late private Company D, Second New Jersey Cavalry, from March 3, 1879.

Parrott, Jacob, late private Company K, Thirty-third Ohio Volunteers, increased to \$20 per month from March 3, 1879.

Pauley, Mary E., widow of James Pauley, late private New York State Volunteer Infantry, from March 1, 1879.

Phillips, George D., a soldier of the war of 1812, from March 3, 1879.

Potter, Frances McNeil, daughter of late General John McNeil, U. S. A., at \$20 per month from March 3, 1879.